

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : To Be Assigned Confirmation No. TBA  
Applicant(s) : REUFER, Christian et al.  
Filed : Concurrent Herewith  
TC/A.U. : To Be Assigned  
Examiner : To Be Assigned  
Title : Process for the Preparation of  $\alpha$ -Substituted Carboxylic Acids from the Series Comprising  $\alpha$ -Hydroxycarboxylic Acids and N-Substituted- $\alpha$ -Aminocarboxylic Acids

Docket No. : 032301.435  
Customer No. : 25461

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

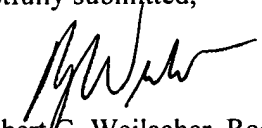
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants are enclosing an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08a) and copies of the foreign patent documents cited therein. The relevance of the cited documents is indicated in the International Search Report mailed March 8, 2005, and in the patent specification, both of which are being submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application and that the cited documents be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

A first Official Action has not yet issued for this application. Therefore, it is believed that no fees are due under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(b)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

  
By: Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531

Dated: December 7, 2005  
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number

### To Be Assigned

**Filing Date**

**Concurrent Herewith**

**First Named Inventor**

REUFER, Christian et al.

**Art Unit**

## To Be Assigned

**Examiner Name**

## To Be Assigned

Attorney Docket Number

032301.435

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		DE 100 40 401 A1	02-28-2002	DEGUSSA AG		✓
		EP 0 189 120 A1	07-30-1986	CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE RICERCHE		✓
		FR 2 542 764 A1	09-21-1984	SOCIETE NATIONALE DES POUDRES ET EXPLOSIFS SA		✓
		WO 02/16671 A1	02-28-2002	DEGUSSA AG		✓

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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